

Daily temporary liquor permits  
(HB 1706 by D. Hudson)

DIGEST: This bill would have allowed the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission to issue daily temporary private-club permits to holders of private-club registration permits, political parties, charities, and fraternal and religious groups, to allow them to serve alcohol at picnics, celebrations, or similar events.

GOVERNOR'S  
REASONS  
FOR VETO:

The Governor said the bill would have created another way to serve liquor in dry counties without providing for a local-option vote by the citizens affected. "I believe that such decisions should be made by the citizens of those communities rather than by the Legislature of this state," the Governor said.

SPONSOR'S  
VIEW:

Rep. David Hudson said the bill did not require a local-option vote because the temporary permit it proposed was very limited: It would be good for only one day. Rep. Hudson said it was the first time one of his bills had been vetoed, adding, "I am frustrated by the process. I didn't have the opportunity to address the Governor's concerns."

NOTES: The House Study Group analysis of HB 1706 appeared in the April 17 Daily Floor Report.

Gasahol labeling  
(HB 1717 by Horn)

DIGEST: This bill would have required motor-fuel dealers dispensing a gasoline-alcohol mixture that contained 1 percent or more of ethanol or methanol to label the pump with the words "This fuel contains Ethyl Alcohol" or "This fuel contains Methyl Alcohol." The Texas Department of Agriculture would have adopted recordkeeping and other rules for administering the program and would have had enforcement authority.

GOVERNOR'S  
REASONS  
FOR VETO:

The Governor said the bill would have created "excessive regulation" and "needless bureaucracy" without benefiting the public. Moreover, he said, funds were not provided for the program in the appropriations bill.